AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended)

1. A method for the ~~prophylaxis and~~ treatment of rosacea and couperose which comprises applying to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of one compound or two or more compounds selected from the group consisting of NO-synthase inhibitors and salts thereof.

Claim 2 (previously amended)

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said compound or compounds are applied in the form of a cosmetic or dermatological topical preparation.

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (previously amended)

4. Method according to Claim 2, wherein the preparations comprise at least one antioxidant.

Claim 5 (previously amended)

5. Method according to Claim 2, wherein the preparations comprise at least one UVA filter, at least one UVB filter, at least one inorganic pigment or a combination of both.

Claim 6 (previously amended)

6. Method according to Claim 2, wherein the preparations comprise at least one antioxidant and at least one UVA filter, at least one UVB filter, at least one inorganic pigment or a combination thereof.

Claim 7 (previously amended)

7. Method according to Claim 1, wherein said one compound or two or more compounds is selected from the group of N^G-monoalkyl-L-arginine, N^G, N^G-dialkyl-L-arginine, N^G, $N^{G'}$-dialkyl-L-arginine and N^G-nitro-L-arginine and derivatives thereof.

Claim 8 (previously amended)

8. Method according to Claim 2, wherein said compound or compounds are selected from the group consisting of N^G-monoalkyl-L-arginine, N^G, N^G-dialkyl-L-arginine, N^G, $N^{G'}$-dialkyl-L-arginine and N^G-nitro-L-arginine and derivatives thereof.

Claims 9 and 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (previously amended)

11. Method according to Claim 8, wherein the preparations comprise at least one antioxidant.

Claim 12 (previously amended)

12. Method according to Claim 8, wherein the preparations comprise at least one UVA filter, at least one UVB filter, at least one inorganic pigment or a combination thereof.

Claim 13 (previously amended)

13. Method according to Claim 8, wherein the preparations comprise at least one antioxidant and at least one UVA filter, at least one UVB filter and/or at least one inorganic pigment or a combination thereof.

Claim 14 (previously amended)

14. Method of Claim 1, wherein said NO-synthase inhibitors contain an arginine radical.

Claim 15 (previously amended)

15. Method of Claim 14, wherein said compounds are applied in the form of cosmetic or dermatological topical preparations.

Claims 16 and 17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (previously added)

18. The method according to claim 1, which is for the treatment of rosacea and couperose.

Claim 19 (currently amended)

19. A method for the ~~prophylaxis and~~ treatment of rosacea and couperose which comprises applying to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of an NO-synthase inhibitor or salt thereof which is selected from the group consisting of N^G-monoethyl-L-arginine monoacetate, 2-Iminobiotin, L-N^5-(1-iminoethyl)-ornithine, S-Methylisothiourea sulphate, S-Methyl-L-thiocitrulline, L-N^G-(1-iminoethyl)lysine, 7-Nitroindazole, S,S'-1,3-Phenylene-bis(1,2-ethanediyl)-bis-isothiourea, L-Thiocitrulline, alpha-N-acetyl-N^G-nitro-L-arginine methyl ester and salts thereof.

Claim 20 (previously amended)

20. The method of claim 19, wherein said NO-synthase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 2-Iminobiotin, L-N^5-(1-iminoethyl)-ornithine, S-Methylisothiourea sulphate, S-Methyl-L-thiocitrulline, L-N^G-(1-iminoethyl)lysine, 7-Nitroindazole, S,S'-1,3-Phenylene-bis(1,2-ethanediyl)-bis-isothiourea, L-Thiocitrulline, and salts thereof.

Claim 21 (previously amended)

21. The method of claim 20, wherein said NO-synthase inhibitor or salt thereof further comprises L^G-Nitro-L-arginine methyl ester hydrochloride.

Claim 22 (previously added)

22. The method of claim 20 or 21, wherein the amount of NO-synthase inhibitor is from 0.001% to 20% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

Claim 23 (previously added)

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the amount of NO-synthase inhibitor is from 0.01% to 10% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

Claim 24 (previously added)

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the amount of NO-synthase inhibitor is from 0.1 to 5% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

Claims 25-27 (cancelled)